AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A method for operating a cooking appliance having a cooking appliance control system and a door moveable between a closed position and an open position relative to a cooking chamber, the method comprising:

automatically moving the door from the closed position to the open position using the cooking appliance control system in response to a first signal indicative of a completion of a cooking process based on at least one of the exhaustion of a cooking time and a sensor signal provided by at least one of a temperature sensor and a humidity sensor disposed in the cooking chamber ~~first condition defining that a cooking process is complete~~; and

automatically returning the door from the open position to the closed position in response to a second signal indicative of ~~a second condition in which~~ a physical quantity including at least one of temperature and humidity in the cooking chamber falling~~falls~~ below a predetermined threshold value stored in a memory of the cooking appliance control system,

wherein the first signal ~~condition~~ and the second signal ~~condition~~ are different.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A cooking appliance comprising:

a cooking chamber bounded by a housing;

a door moveable between a closed position and a predetermined open position;

a cooking appliance control system having a memory;

a sensor disposed in the cooking chamber configured to send an output signal to the cooking appliance control system;

a guide device; and

a door opening device including a positioning motor and a rod configured to be automatically reciprocated in the guide device by the cooking appliance control system via the positioning motor so as to automatically move the door from the closed position to

the predetermined open position and from the predetermined open position to the closed position, the cooking appliance control system configured to actuate the positioning motor so as to automatically move the door from the closed position to the predetermined open position in response to a first signal indicative of a completion of a cooking process based on at least one of the exhaustion of a cooking time and the output signal from the sensor ~~first condition defining that a cooking process is complete~~ and to actuate the positioning motor so as to automatically return the door to the closed position when a second signal is indicative of ~~a second condition in which~~ a physical quantity including at least one of temperature and humidity in the cooking chamber has fallen below a predetermined threshold value stored in the memory, wherein the first signal ~~condition~~ and the second signal ~~condition~~ are different.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The cooking appliance as recited in claim 7, wherein the cooking appliance is a steam cooking appliance.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The cooking appliance as recited in claim 7, wherein the positioning motor includes an electrically heatable shape-memory element.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The cooking appliance as recited in claim 7, further comprising a return element disposed between the door and the housing, wherein the return element is in force-transmitting connection with the door and the housing and is configured to aid the return of the door from the predetermined open position to the closed position.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The cooking appliance as recited claim 7, further comprising at least one of a spring device and a damping device mounted on the rod and configured to retard a movement of the door from the closed position to the predetermined open position.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The cooking appliance as recited claim 7, further comprising at least one of a spring device and a damping device mounted on the rod and configured to retard a movement of the door from the predetermined open position to the closed position.